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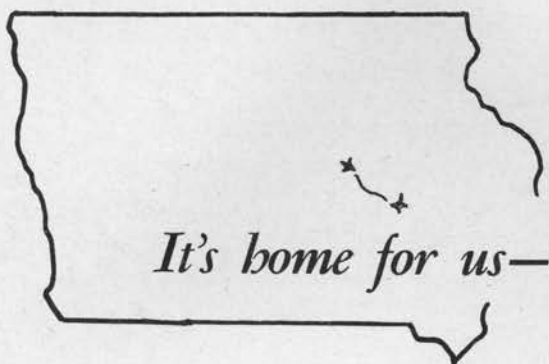


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Our Des Moines apartment

By Marilyn Martin

Technical Journalism Sophomore

Can commuting be practical?

The McCulloch's say "yes" because . . .

- No moving after graduation
- Convenient shopping center
- Apartment close to job

BARB AND BILL McCULLOCH (she's the former Barb Lumbard) say that there's no place like a home in Des Moines. They've proved that commuting can be practical.

They can think of only three limiting factors to why Des Moines might not be the perfect spot for Iowa State students to live: unpredictable weather, changing college class contact hours and commuting expenses.

While Bill is driving about 40 miles a day, Barb, one of Iowa State's 1955 Bomb Beauties and Science Ball Queen, walks four blocks to her stenographic and clerical position. Barb proudly says, "I save 40 cents a day by not having to go downtown. On the other hand, Bill spends \$40 a month on his gasoline bill."

Besides carrying 40 contact and 19 credit hours Bill treats cases at the Iowa State College Veterinary Clinic on Sundays. Activities take part of Bill's time, too, as president of Scabbard and Blade and president of the Iowa State Daily Publication Board. In June, when he graduates with a degree in Veterinary Medicine, he'll work for Dr. Leeper's Small Animal Hospital in Des Moines. Bill gets home late evenings, but it's the idea of having breakfast before the sun comes up, so Bill can leave for Ames, that bothers Barb.

The couple chose Des Moines so they'll be already

situated and not have to move when Bill graduates.

"We really had very little trouble finding our three-room apartment. We went apartment hunting during August and in early September took this one," says Barb. They found their choice had to satisfy their taste and fit their financial limitations.

The apartment is a block away from a shopping center which has a supermarket, dry cleaner, drug-store and theatre. This eliminates many trips to downtown Des Moines.

Before they moved into their apartment, the McCulloch's landlord redecorated the entire living room and bed room so that all they had to do was move their personal articles and a few lamps into the already furnished apartment. However, they did clean the apartment thoroughly and Bill painted the kitchen cupboards. Barb made their living room draperies for \$18 and the kitchen curtains for 50 cents a pair. "It was fun to save money that way," Barb says.

Selling points of apartment

Two more selling points of the apartment are the kitchen's new refrigerator and a private entrance. The utilities, use of a washing machine and a garage are also included in the rent.

Rent, \$75 a month, is the biggest financial burden for the McCulloch's. They pay \$60 to \$70 a month for food, \$40 for gas.

The McCulloch's weighed each side of the problem, and they still think commuting is the best bargain. They won't have to move in June, they can be close to a good job for Barb and they have a convenient shopping center. Besides all this, they think that they've found the ideal apartment for a young couple.